Russian Far East News Monitor



Project Title	Russian Far East News Monitor
	Help inform U.S. foreign policy making and reporting by finding news stories of interest to the U.S. Embassy in Moscow and Washington, DC.
Country	Russia

Project Description

The U.S. Consulate in Vladivostok is seeking assistance in reporting on political, economic, cultural, and social developments in the Russian Far East - the largest consulate district in the world by landmass. Though the least densely populated area of Russia, the region is of enormous strategic and economic importance. Many of Russia's most important bilateral relationships are on display here, while the local politics reflect both general Russian trends as well as unique local twists. The Political-Economic Section of the Consulate is seeking interns to help catch news stories each day that could be of broader interest outside the region. The Consular District includes the 11 regions of the Far East Federal District, plus Irkutsk Oblast.

Required Skills or Interests

Skill(s)

Research

Writing

Additional Information

Ideally, the virtual intern(s) would send a report of relevant news headlines and stories in the Russian Far East 3-5 days per week, with the report arriving in Vladivostok by about 8:30am local time, which would be 6:30pm in Washington, DC (5:30pm Central Time, 4:30pm Mountain Time, 3:30pm Pacific Time). Priority days would be Sunday-Thursday, but the schedule would be negotiable based on your availability. The Russian Far East has expanded to include 12 regions/districts: Primorye (where Vladivostok is located), Khabarovsk, Sakhalin, Yakutsk, Kamchatka, Magadan, Chukotka, Amur, the Jewish Autonomous Oblast, Irkutsk, Buryatia, and

Transbaikal. In past years, interns have often divided responsibility geographically among themselves, rotating regions every couple of months.

The main outlets to monitor are the following:

Vladivostok: Primamedia - http://primamedia.ru/, Vl.ru - http://www.vl.ru/, Konkurent - http://konkurent.ru/, Zolotoy Rog - http://zrpress.ru/, Regional news portal - http://primorye.ru/; Sakhalin/Kuril: Sakh.com - http://sakh.com/, Sakhalinmedia- sakhalinmedia.ru/, ASTV - https://astv.ru/, Khabarovsk: Vostokmedia (both Primorye and Khabarovsk) - http://vostokmedia.com/, Amurmedia - http://amurmedia.ru/, DvHab - http://www.dvhab.ru/, DebriDV - http://debri-dv.com/, Yakutsk: Yakutiainfo - http://yakutia.info/, Ykt.ru - http://news.ykt.ru/, YSIA - http://ysia.ru/; Kamchatka: Kamchatinfo - http://kamchat.info/, Kam24 - https://www.kam24.ru/, VestiPK - http://www.vestipk.ru/; Amur, PortAmur - https://portamur.ru/, Amur.Info - http://www.amur.info/; Magadan: Kolyma - http://www.kolyma.ru/, Magadanmedia - http://magadanmedia.ru/; Chukotka: IA Chukotka - http://www.prochukotku.ru/, Anadyr - http://www.anadyr.org/; Jewish Autonomous Oblast: Gorod na Bire - http://www.gorodnabire.ru/, EAOmedia - http://eaomedia.ru/, Transbaikal - https://www.chita.ru/news/, https://zab.ru/news, https://ok.ru/chitaru, https://www.mkchita.ru/news/; Irkutsk: https://www.irk.ru/news/, https://irkutsk.news/, https://baikal.mk.ru/news/, https://irk.today/, Buryatia: https://www.infpol.ru/, https://gazetarb.ru/news/, https://arigus.tv/news/, https://bgtrk.ru/

Not all outlets would need to be monitored each day, but starting from the first outlet in each region, you would do the following: translate the news home page into English (right click and select 'translate page' in Google Chrome), scan for stories of broader interest based on the criteria below, copy headlines and URLs into a Word document, copy any key facts from the stories (time permitting), organize the headlines by general category, and then send the Word document to the following email addresses: NoyesFN@state.gov; ConcorsEE@state.gov; YeremeyevaAA@state.gov; and MotovilovDA@State.gov. In general, the topics of interest are the following:

- 1. North Koreans in the Russian Far East (RFE)
- 2. North Korean efforts to develop its nuclear weapons program and delivery systems
- 3. U.S.-Russian Relations in the RFE
- 4. The U.S. Consulate in Vladivostok
- 5. Sanctions on Russia and North Korea
- 6. Public Opinion Polling of residents in the RFE
- 7. Federal government efforts to develop the RFE
- 8. Public Protests and Activism in the RFE
- 9. Russian-Japanese relations in the RFE
- 10. Russian-Korean relations in the RFE
- 11. Russian-Chinese relations in the RFE
- 12. Russian Military Capability development in the RFE, including military exercises
- 13. Regional and Local Politics in the RFE
- 14. U.S. Business and Investment in the RFE
- 15. Economic Development Indicators in the RFE
- 16. Vostochniy Space Port activities
- 17. Corruption in the RFE
- 18. Notable events concerning Society and Culture in the RFE (e.g., surveys, demographic trends, notable cultural events, awards and achievements, indigenous affairs, religious groups, human rights, censorship)
- 19. Environmental Problems in the RFE (e.g., Pollution, deforestation, endangered species, efforts by the Russian government and NGOs to protect the environment and wildlife)
- 20. Health challenges in the RFE (e.g., HIV/AIDS, drug abuse, alcoholism, antibiotic misuse, drug-resistant illnesses) 21. Agriculture development in the RFE (e.g., new greenhouses and dairy farms, fisheries, railroads to carry

grain to ports, foreign investment in the agricultural sector)

22. Education sector development in the RFE, and what happens to graduates when they graduate from college 23. Science and technology developments in the RFE, including robotics and drones (especially underwater drones)

Language Requirements

Language Speaking Proficiency Reading Proficiency Importance

Russian No practical proficiency Minimum professional proficiency Nice to Have